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Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims 43, 47, 49, 52, and 54 and cancel claim 48 and 53, as indicated herein. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. - 42. (Cancelled)

43. (Currently amended) An actuation assembly comprising:

a gimbal;

a slider, wherein the slider comprises a front side;

a slider bond pad for electrically connecting the slider to a trace layer, the slider bond pad having at least two layers a pad extension adjacent to the front side and a pad adjacent the pad extension, wherein the pad extension comprises nickel iron;

a ball bond for connecting the slider bond pad to the trace layer;

a notch located below the slider bond pad and on an edge of the slider, wherein the edge is adjacent the gimbal; and

wherein the notch and the slider bond pad provide compensation for potential misalignment between the slider and the gimbal.

44. (Previously presented) The actuation assembly according to claim 43, wherein the notch has a height with respect to the gimbal of about 25 microns.

45. (Previously presented) The actuation assembly according to claim 43, wherein the slider bond pad has a thickness of about 15 microns.

46. (Previously presented) The actuation assembly according to claim 43, wherein the slider bond pad has a thickness of about 5 microns.